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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Written statement submitted by World Confederation of Labour, a non-governmental organization in consultative status (category I); American Association of Jurists, Disabled People's International, International Association for the Defence of Religious Liberty, International League for the Rights and Liberation of Peoples, Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees and Pax Christi International, non-governmental organizations in consultative status (category II); International Educational Development Inc., International Falcon Movement, International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism and Movement against Racism and for Friendship among Peoples, non-governmental organizations on the Roster

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement, which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

[17 February 1994]

Justice for Professor Kazem Radjavi

1. On 24 April 1990, Professor Kazem Radjavi, representative of the Iranian Resistance to the Commission on Human Rights, was assassinated by a terrorist commando group at Coppet, near Geneva. The judicial investigation conducted by the competent Swiss services enabled Mr. Roland Châtelain, examining magistrate in charge of the case, to confirm in a communiqué of 22 June 1990

that "the 13 persons implicated" in that assassination "were all issued with official Iranian passports stamped 'chargé de mission'". The communiqué stated that "the police officers in charge of the investigation have collected evidence of various kinds to support the conclusion that one or more Iranian official services are directly involved in the assassination of Mr. Kazem Radjavi".

2. Judge Châtelain transmitted through Berne a letter of request followed by several reminders to the Iranian authorities, but has still "not received anything"; the Iranian authorities "do not even acknowledge receipt of the letter". This is an unacceptable attitude which only serves to confirm the results of the judicial investigation.

3. On 20 November 1992, as a result of legal cooperation, two of the individuals wanted by Swiss justice for their involvement in this terrorist crime, against whom an international arrest warrant had been issued, were apprehended in Paris.

4. On 21 November 1992, Mr. Massoud Radjavi, leader of the Iranian Resistance and brother of the victim, issued a communiqué calling for the two suspects to be extradited to Switzerland. On 24 November 1992 Switzerland officially requested the French authorities to proceed with this extradition.

5. On 10 February 1993, the judicial procedure thus set in motion led to the French courts authorizing this extradition by virtue of the principle of reciprocity and in accordance with the international conventions for combating terrorism and extraditing criminals which have been signed between France and Switzerland.

6. However, on 30 December 1993, to general surprise and indignation, international public opinion was officially informed that the two men implicated in this crime whom the Swiss authorities were preparing to receive had been sent back to Tehran. The terrorist acts committed against French diplomatic premises in Tehran which preceded this gesture leave no doubt that it was the result of blackmail on the part of the Iranian authorities.

7. By taking in these two individuals accused of terrorism and murder in order to protect them and shield them from justice, the Iranian regime is adopting an attitude which can be interpreted as an acknowledgement of official responsibility for the crime. The non-governmental organizations submitting this written statement call upon the Commission on Human Rights to demand that the Iranian Government should turn over these two individuals, as well as the other members of the commando group, to Swiss justice. By so doing, the Iranian regime would demonstrate its refusal to be implicated in this crime.